⑩ 日本 国特 許 庁 (JP) ⑪実用新案出願公開

◎ 公開実用新案公報(U) 平2-144268

Solnt. Cl. 5

識別記号

庁内整理番号

❸公開 平成2年(1990)12月6日

B 23 K 9/10

Z 6625-4E

審査請求 未請求 請求項の数 4 (全 頁)

アーク加工装置 図考案の名称

②実 願 平1-51238

**20出 顧 平1(1989)4月29日** 

大阪府大阪市淀川区田川 2丁目 1番11号 株式会社ダイヘ 守 敏 長 坂 ⑩考 案 者

ン内

大阪府大阪市淀川区田川2丁目1番11号 株式会社ダイヘ 章治 ⑩考 案 者 郷 原

ン内

大阪府大阪市淀川区田川 2丁目 1番11号 株式会社ダイヘ 英 治 ⑫考 案 者 西山

ン内

大阪府大阪市淀川区田川2丁目1番11号 ⑪出 願 人 株式会社ダイヘン

10代理人 弁理士 中 井 宏

- 1 . 考案の名称 アーク加工装置
- 2. 実用新案登録請求の範囲
  - 1. 出力電圧および出力端子形状の異なる2種 類の電源から電力を得るアーク加工装置におい て、電源入力ケーブルを電源電圧毎に用意し、 前記各電源入力ケーブルの一端は対応する電源 の出力端子形状に適合した形状とし、他端は接 続される電源の相数よりも少なくとも1端子以 上の余分の端子を設けたメス形コネクタとする とともに、前記ケーブルの少なくとも一本には 前記余分の端子のうちの一本と電源電圧の一方 の線が接続される端子とを短絡した構造とし、 アーク加工装置の電源入力端子として前記入力 ケーブルの他端の端子部に対応した端子部を有 するオス形コネクタを設けるとともに前記コネ クタの端子のうち電源電圧の他方の線に対応す る端子と前記余分に設けられた端子のうちの少 なくとも1本との間にリレーコイルを接続し、



前記リレーの接点によって前記アーク加工装置の内部回路を供給電圧に対応した回路構成に切替える構造としたアーク加工装置。

- 2. 前記電源入力ケーブルの他端における前記 余分の端子と電源電圧の一方が接続される端子 との短絡は、前記電源入力ケーブルのうちの低 電圧用ケーブルにおいてのみ実施されるもので ある請求項1に記載のアーク加工装置。
- 4. 出力電圧および出力端子形状が異なる2種類の電源から電力を得るアーク加工装置において、電源入力端子部に電源の相数に加えて入力

3. 考案の詳細な説明

<産業上の利用分野>

考案案は、電源電圧として 100 V と 200 V のようにそのコンセントの端子形状が全く異なる 2 種類の電源に共用できるアーク加工装置の改良に関するものである。

く従来の技術>

電源電圧が 100Vと 200Vのように 2 種類の電源に対して使用できるようにしたアーク溶接機や

切断機においては、従来は電源電圧の入力部に電圧判別回路を設けて、入力電圧レベルをチェックし、高低判別した結果によって内部回路を切替えるようにしていた。(例えば特開昭 56-80374号、特開昭 56-80373号または特開昭 63-212072 号公報に記載の発明)

整手段が用いる。7は出力検出回路でありは出力検出回路であたは出力電流のいずれかまたのでまたのク信号を得回というのとは出力と出出のであり出出の路が、9は出力を得回ののおりと出力をはした出力を出出のはかったのはではではである。6に保つはアーク加工用電極、11は被加工物である。6

第 5 図は上記従来装置の入力電圧判別回路の例を示すものであり、同図(a) は上記の前者の例を示し、(b) は後者の例を示す接続図である。第 5



図 (a) において D 1 は整流器、 r 1 は抵抗器、 C R 1 は直流リレー、 C 1 はコンデンサである。入 力端子a,b間にAC 100Vが供給されたときは これを整流器Dlにて整流した電圧によってはり レーCR1 は動作せず接点CR16が閉じたままで ある。このため変圧器 5 の低圧入力側タップに A C 100Vが供給され、このタップによって定まる 出力電圧が得られる。入力端子 a , b 間に A C 200 Vが供給されたときにはリレー C R 1 が励磁 されて接点CRlaが閉じ接点CRlbが開く。これ によって変圧器 5 は高電圧入力側タップにAC 200∨が印加される。それ故、高電圧入力側タッ プの巻数を低電圧入力側タップの巻数の2倍にし ておけば出力電圧としては供給電圧が 200∨のと きも 100Vのときと同じ電圧が得られることにな 第 5 図(b) は上記(a) の例を少し改良した ものであって、Reclは整流回路r2ないしr5 は 抵抗器、C2 はコンデンサ、ZD1 は定電圧ダイ オード、Compl は比較器、Amplは増幅器である。 同図において入力電圧は整流回路Reclによって直 流に変換されて比較器Compl、増幅器AmplおよびリレーCR1の電源として利用されるとと準電圧V2 にも供給されて基準電圧V2 になる。また整流回路Reclの出力は抵抗器に4とr5によって分圧されてV1 となり、ここでリンーでのカカ端子に供給される。ここでV1 およびでといるの大小関係がV1 > V2 でリレーCR1 が励磁されV1 < V2 のときに非励磁となるように構成しておく。

いま、入力電源としてAC 200 Vが供給されたときには比較器 Comp1 の入力電圧 V1 は定 よりもイオードの電圧である他方の入力電圧 V2 よ接接のでりレーCR1 は直ちに励磁されて、接点 CR1bが開いて、を変れる CR1aが開路され、接点 CR1bが開印印度器 5 の高電圧側タップにAC 200 Vが供給されたときに分の入力電圧 V1 は直ちによる。一大較器 Comp1 の一方の入力電圧 V1 は直 コンテナ で 3 が定電圧 ダイオードの端子電圧 ビルデリレ なが接続されているために少し遅れて上昇し



<考案が解決しようとする課題>

上記のように従来装置においては、供給された電圧をその大小関係によって判別し、リレー等を駆動して内部回路を供給電圧に適応するように切替えるものであるので、判別回路の応答速度が遅いと供給電圧の立上り速度に十分対応できず第5図(a)のような簡易方式のものにおいては 200 V が供給されたときでも一瞬 100 V 用の低電圧入力

タップに 200 V が印加されて内部回路に異常る危険 V が印加されて内部回路に異常 る危険 性がある。まな解決するためには第50 図(b)のように軽器 や遅延を加えて安全側がある。 とのであった。 200 V が印加されたがは 200 V が印刷が 200 V が印刷が 200 V が 20

<課題を解決するための手段>

المعان

< 実施例 >

第1図に本考案のアーク は電源電圧が単相 100 V の場合を示し、同図 (a) は電源電圧が単相 200 V の場合を示している。第1図において12はAC 100 V 用コンセントを用いる。13はAC 100 V 用コード13のといった。13はAC 100 V 用コード13ののおれると 14a と14b にはAC 100 V 用コード13のおれると 14a と14b にはAC 100 V 用コード13のはが 法子14a と14b にはAC 100 V 用コード 13のはが 法子の一方の 14a と 14c は A C 100 V が るったり 12、カコード 13 おおば で クリスカコード 13 おおば セントグ 12、カコード 13 おおば セントガラグ 12、カコード 13 およば スカコード 接続 は なん アラグ 12、カコード おり 200 V 用コ きに 接続 の 正 着端子 処理がなされている。

17は 200 V 耐圧のコード、18は 100 V 用電源ケーブルに用いたコネクタ 14と同仕様のコネクタでありその端子 18a 、18b はコード 17に接続されているが、端子 18c は無接続である。第 1 図(c) は



同図(a) および(b) の電源入力ケーブルが接続さ れるアーク加工装置本体の構造を示す接続図であ る。同図において15は電源入力部のコネクタであ り電源入力ケーブルのコネクタ部14および18に対 応した端子数を有するオス形コネクタである。こ のコネクタの端子15a と15b とは入力ケーブルの コネクタ14a、14bおよび18a、18bに対応しており それぞれ電源電圧が供給される。端子15c はケー ブルの端子14c および18c に対応し各ケーブル端 のコネクタと同様に電源電圧判別のために設けら れた余分の端子である。 CR2 は接点 CR2aおよ び C R 2bを各 2 個有するリレーでありコネクタ 15 の端子15c と端子15b との間にコイルが接続され ている。その他2ないし11は第4図の従来装置と 同様であるが入力電圧判別回路3はなくまた制御 回路9はその電源を一次巻線にセンタータップを 有する制御用の補助変圧器 91を有しておりリレー CR2 の接点CR2aとCR2bとによって切替える よう構成されている。

第 1 図(c) の装置に同図(a) に示すAC 100 V



用のケーブルが接続されたときはケーブル端のコネクタ14の端子14aと14cとが短絡されているのでリレーCR2はAC100Vの電圧が印加されて励磁され、常別接点CR2bが開き常開接点CR2aが閉じる。この結果変圧器5および制御回路の変圧器91の各一次巻線は低電圧側のタップに電源が供給されることになる。

一方、第1図(b)のAC 200V用ケーブルが接続されたときにはケーブルの端末のコネクタ18の端子18c は無接続であるからこれに対応するコネクタ15の端子15c に一端が接続されているリレーCR2は非励磁のままとなり、常閉接点CR2bが閉じ常開接点CR2aが開いた状態に保たれる。それ故電源電圧は変圧器5および補助変圧器91の高電圧側タップに接続される。

上記の結果、電源入力電圧が 100 V の場合と 200 V の場合のいずれにおいても変圧器 5 および補助変圧器 91の出力電圧は等しくなりこれらの変圧器以後の回路は全く同一条件で動作することになる。



ここでケーブルの入力側のコンセントはAC 100VとAC 200VとではJISC-8303に定められている通り明確に形状が異なり、両者を誤って使用できない構造であるので作業者は何らの注意することなく装置を電源へ接続することができる。

第1図において、端子14cの短絡を外し、端子18cを端子18aと短絡して、リレーCR2の常閉接点と常開接点とを逆にし、リレーCR2がAC200V時において励磁される構造としてもよがいまった。 この場合には電源接続の直前までリレーの常とはでいるがはでいるようにはないではないときには一瞬のではいときには一瞬のであまりしての動作速度が遅いときには一瞬高電圧が低電圧タップに供給される危険性があるのであまり好ましくない。

第2図は本考案の別の実施例を示す接続図であり、同図(a) はAC 100V用の電源入力用ケーブルを示し、同図(b) はAC 200V用のケーブルを示しており、同図(c) はこれらのケーブルによって電源が供給されるアーク加工装置本体の構造を示している。同図においてケーブルの装置側コネ



クタは 4 端子とし同図 (a) に示すように A C 100 V用ケーブルはコネクタ19として端子19a・19b と に電源コード13を接続し端子19a と端子19c とを 短絡している。これに対して同図 (b) に示すよう に A C 200 V 用ケーブルはコネクタ21として端子 21a と 21b とに電源コード17を接続し、端子21a と 21d とを短絡している。

アーク加工装置本体は同図(c) に示すように 4端子のコネクタ 20を設け端子 20a と 20b とをケーブルのコネクタ端子 19a・19bおよび 21a・21bに対応させて電源入力端子とし端子 20c を端子 19c および端子 21c に、また端子 20d を端子 19d および端子 21d にそれぞれ対応させる。また端子 20c と端子 20b との間にリレー CR4 のコイルを接続してある。これによって入力電圧がAC100Vのときはリレー CR4 が励磁されることになる。

またアーク加工装置本体の出力調整方式は第 1



図と異なり、入力電圧を整流器DR1ないしDR 4 にて整流したものをコンデンサ C 3 , C 4 にて 平滑するものであってコンデンサ C 3 と C 4 との 接続点と整流器 DR1 とDR2 および DR3 と D R4の接続点との間をリレー接点によりAC 100 V入力時は接続して倍電圧整流回路とし、AC 2007入力のときには両波整流回路としている。 制御回路 9 は第 1 図の実施例と同様に補助変圧器 の一次側タップをリレー接点によって切替える方 式のものである。また6′は出力調整部であり、 直流入力を適宜調整するトランジスタチョッパや P W M 制御式インバータ回路によって一旦交流に 変換した後に再度整流して直流出力を得る方式の もの等が用いれらる。なお、その他の部分は第 1 図の実施例と同機能のものに同符号を付して説明 を省略する。

同図の装置において、(a) に示す A C 100 V 用ケーブルを(c) に示す本体に接続したときは、リレーC R 3 が励磁され、リレーC R 4 は非励磁となる。これによって接点 C R 3 aが閉じ接点 C R 3 b



が開く。(このとき接点 C R 4aは開き、接点 C R 4bは閉じている。)この結果、 A C 100 V 入力電圧は整流器 D R 1. D R 2 とコンデンサ C 3. C 4 とによって倍電圧整流されて出力調整部 6 ~に供給される。

第2図の実施例においては、AC 100V入力時



とAC 200V 入力時とにおいてそれぞれ励磁されるリレーを別個に設けて各リレーの接点を直列にして用いたので、接触不良やリレーコイルの断線等によって一方のリレーの動作が不良になっても誤って高い電圧が印加される危険性がなく、より安全である。

大型が

続して用いるアーク加工装置の本体であり、電源 入力部には各ケーブルのコネクタに対応した端子 部を有するオス形コネクタが設けてあり、その端 子 23c ないし 23g はケーブル端のコネクタ 22およ び24の各端子22a ないし22g および24a ないし 24g に対応する位置に定められている。端子23a と23b には電源ラインが接続されるので電源スイ ッチ 2 に接続され、端子 23c は整流器 D R 3 と D R 4 との接続点に、また端子 23d はコンデンサ C3とC4との接続点にそれぞれ接続されている。 また端子eは電源スイッチ2の出力の一方に、ま た端子23f は制御回路9の補助変圧器91の一次側 の高入力電圧用タップに、また端子23g は補助変 圧器 91の一次巻線の低入力電圧用タップにそれぞ れ接続されている。さらに補助変圧器 91の一次巻 線の他方の端子は電源スイッチ2の他の出力に接 続されている。その他は第2図に示した実施例と 同機能のものに同符号を付して説明を省略する。

同図の実施例において、(a) のAC 100V用ケーブルを(c) の本体に接続したときはコネクタ23



の端子 23 c と 23 d とが短絡され、また端子 23 e と 23 g とが短絡されることにになるので、AC 100 V 電源は整流器 D R 1 , D R 2 と コンデンサ C 3 , C 4 とによって倍電圧整流されて出力調整部 6 でに供給される。このときAC 100 V 電源はまた端子 23 e と 23 g とを経て制御回路 9 の補助変圧器 91 の低電圧用タップに供給される。

一方(b) のAC 200V用ケーブルを(c) の本体に接続したときは、コネクタ23の端子23e と23fとが短絡されるので、AC 200V電源は整流コンを取りない。 AC 200V電源はを流器DR4 にてあってのでは、カーは、カーは、上記をは、カーは、単相の 100Vと 200Vとにおいては、単相の 100Vと 200Vとにおいては、単相の 100Vと 200Vとにおいては、明したが入力コンセントの形状が明確に区別でき



るものであれば 3 相 200 V / 400 V の 2 電源に対しても適用可能である。

またアーク加工装置本体の内部回路を切替える方法は例に示したものに限定されるものではない。これを明して適宜定められるものであり、これを明しての接点数や接続あるいはつからはいの余分の端子というないのはもちろんである。

#### く考案の効果 >

上記のように本考案によるときは、適用する電源電圧に対してそれぞれ専用の入力用ケーブルを本体に接続するだけで内部回路の必要な切替が行なわれるので、構造が管理で安価である。 回路を用いる必要がないので故障がなく、極めて安定した装置が得られるものである。

#### 4. 図面の簡単な説明

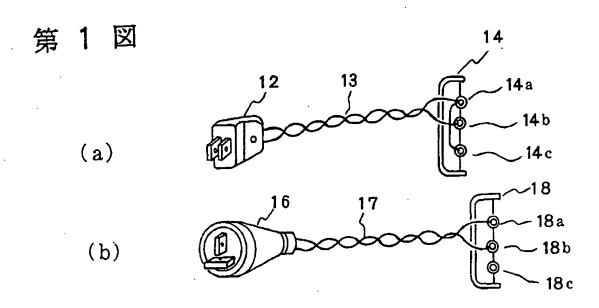
第1図ないし第3図は本考案の実施例を示す接続図、第4図は従来の例を示す接続図、第5図は 第4図の従来装置において用いられる2電圧判別

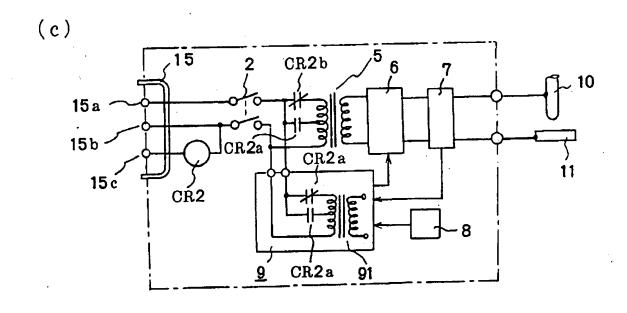


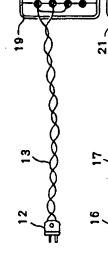
回路の例を示す接続図である。

- 1, 1 … 入力端子、2 … 電源スイッチ、
- 5 … 変圧器、 6, 6 ~ … 出力調整部、
- 9 …制御回路、12, 16…入力コンセント、
- 13, 17 ... = 5,
- 14, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24…ケーブル端コネクタ、
- 15, 20, 23… アーク加工装置本体側コネクタ、
- 91… 補助変圧器、 C R 2. C R 3. C R 4 … リレー

代理人 弁理士 中井 宏







(a) 16 (b) 16

図

(21a)

924

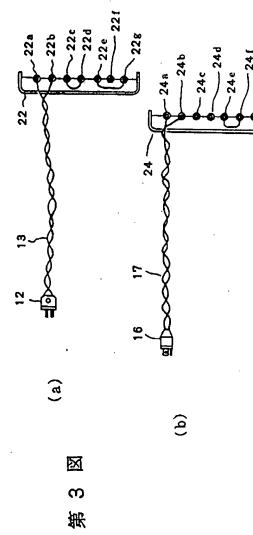
実開 2-1.1.4268

实用新聚登録出顧人

(026) 株式会社 タイハブ

代理人 弁理士 (8295) 中 井 宏

ANU.



6 DR3 DR4 238 23c 23a ~ 23e -23d — 23b -231/ (၁)

24g

実用新案登錄出願人

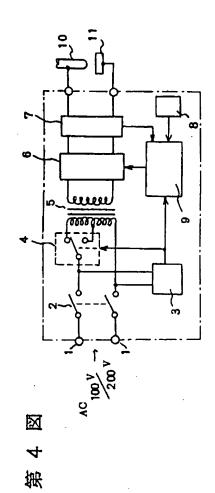
(026) 株式会社 ダイヘブ

代理人 并理士 (8295) 中 井 宏

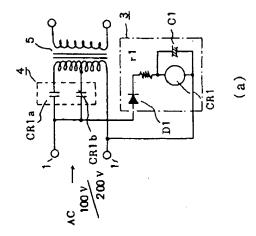
東暦 9-144968 925

986

**基型**4、



100 V 1 CR18 1 S Comp1 CR1 (b)



第 2 図

実用新案登録出顯人

(026) 株式会社 タイヘン

代理人 并理士 (8295) 中 井 宏

Utility Model Publication No. 02-144268

Publication Date: December 6, 1990

Title of the Device: ARC MACHINING APPARATUS

Application No.:01-051238

5 Date of Filing: April 29, 1989

Creator of Device: MORITOSHI NAGASAKA

Creator of Device: AKIHARU GOHARA

Creator of Device: EIJI NISHIYAMA

Applicant: DAIHEN CO LTD

10 -----

#### Description

Title of the Device
 ARC MACHINING APPARATUS

- 2. Claims for the Utility Model
- 1. An arc machining apparatus to which electric power is supplied from two types of power supplies that differ in output voltage and in shape of an output
- 20 terminal, wherein a power supply input cable is prepared for each power supply voltage, each of said power supply input cable is shaped at one end to fit to the shape of the output terminal of the corresponding power supply and has a female connector at the other
- end, the female connector having a number of terminals including at least one more extra terminal than the number of phases of the power supply to which the

connector is connected, at least one of said cables has one of said extra terminals and a terminal to which one of lines for the power supply voltage is connected short-circuited to each other, a power supply input terminal of said arc machining apparatus is a male connector that has a terminal unit adapted to the terminal unit at said other end of said input cables, a relay coil is connected between one of terminals of said connector that corresponds to the other of the lines for the power supply voltage and at least one of said extra terminals, and a contact of said relay is used to switch an internal circuit of said arc machining apparatus to a circuit configuration suitable for the supplied voltage.

- 2. The arc machining apparatus according to claim
  1, wherein the short-circuit between said extra
  terminal on said other end of said power supply input
  cables and the terminal to which said one of the lines
  for the power supply voltage is connected is achieved
  only for a lower-voltage cable of said power supply
  input cables.
  - 3. The arc machining apparatus according to claim

    1, wherein the number of said extra terminals is two,
    said extra terminal short-circuited to the power supply
    voltage terminal of each of said cables is selected so
    that a dedicated relay is excited in each of cases
    where a higher-voltage cable is connected and where a

lower-voltage cable is connected, and a contact of each of said relays is used to switch the internal circuit of said arc machining apparatus to a circuit suitable for the input voltage.

- 4. An arc machining apparatus to which electric 5 power is supplied from two types of power supplies that differ in output voltage and in shape of an output terminal, wherein a power supply input terminal unit has a male connector that has terminals including the same number of terminals as the number of phases of the 10 power supply and a plurality of extra terminals to which a lead for switching an internal circuit according to an input voltage is connected, a power supply input cable is prepared for each power supply voltage, each of said power supply input cable is 15 shaped at one end to fit to the shape of the output terminal of the corresponding power supply and has a female connector at the other end, the female connector having a terminal adapted to said connector of said power supply input terminal unit of said arc machining 20 apparatus, and required ones of the terminals of said connector are connected to each other so that the internal circuit of said arc machining apparatus is connected appropriately for the applied power supply 25 voltage.
  - 3. Detailed Description of the Device

<Industrial Application Field>

The present device relates to an improvement of an arc machining apparatus that is available for two types of power supplies that distinctly differ in shape of the outlet and in power supply voltage, such as 100 V and 200 V.

#### <Conventional Art>

5

10

15

20

25

Conventional arc welders and arc cutters available for two types of power supplies having different power supply voltages, such as 100 V and 200 V, have a voltage determining circuit at the input unit at which the power supply voltage is applied thereto to check the input voltage level, and switch from one internal circuit to another based on the determined voltage level (see the inventions described in Japanese Patent Laid-Open Nos. 56-80374, 58-80373 and 63-212072, for example).

Figure 4 shows an exemplary conventional apparatus. In this drawing, reference numeral 1 denotes a power supply input terminal, to which a commercial alternating-current voltage of 100 V or 200 V is supplied. Reference numeral 2 denotes a power supply switch, and reference numeral 3 denotes an input voltage determining circuit. Reference numeral 4 denotes a switching circuit that switches an input tap of a transformer 5 in response to the output of the input voltage determining circuit 3, which is a relay

contact that operates in response to the output of the input voltage determining circuit 3. Reference numeral 5 denotes a transformer that appropriately transforms the input voltage into a value suitable for arc machining, and the transformer has a center tap on the primary winding and is configured to provide an equal output voltage when the input voltage is 100 V and when the input voltage is 200 V. Reference numeral 6 denotes an output adjusting unit, which is well-known output adjusting means, such as a combination of a 10 rectifier circuit and a switching transistor and a phase controlling circuit using a thyristor. Reference numeral 7 denotes an output detecting circuit that detects either or both of the output voltage and the output current and produces a feedback signal. 15 Reference numeral 8 denotes an output setting circuit, and reference numeral 9 denotes an output controlling circuit that compares the output of the output setting circuit 8 and the output of the output detecting circuit 7 and outputs the differential signal to the 20 output adjusting unit 6 as a drive signal to keep the output at a preset value. Reference numeral 10 denotes an arc machining electrode, and reference numeral 11 denotes a workpiece.

As a simple example, the input voltage determining circuit 3 in the apparatus shown in Figure 4 may be a relay that has an operating voltage equal to or higher

than 100 V and equal to or lower than 200 V and has a contact used as the switching circuit 4 to switch the tap of the transformer. As an alternative example, the input voltage determining circuit 3 may be a more precise circuit that compares the level of the input voltage with a voltage-regulator diode and is operated via an amplifier circuit, such as a transistor.

10

15

20

25

Figure 5 shows examples of the input voltage determining circuit in the conventional apparatus described above. Figure 5(a) is a connection diagram showing the former example described above, and Figure 5(b) is a connection diagram showing the latter example described above. In Figure 5(a), reference symbol D1 denotes a rectifier, reference symbol r1 denotes a resistor, reference symbol CR1 denotes a direct-current relay, and reference symbol C1 denotes a capacitor. When AC 100 V is applied between input terminals a and b, depending on the voltage obtained by the rectifier D1 rectifying the AC 100 V, the relay CR1 does not operate, and the contact CR16 is kept closed. In that case, the AC 100 V is supplied to a lower-voltage input tap of the transformer 5, and the output voltage is determined by the tap. When AC 200 V is applied between the input terminals a and b, the relay CR1 is excited, the contact CR1a is closed, and the contact CR1b is opened. As a result, the AC 200 V is applied to a higher-voltage input tap of the transformer 5.

Therefore, if the number of windings of the highervoltage input tap is twice as many as the number of windings of the lower-voltage input tap, an equal output voltage is produced regardless of whether the 5 supplied voltage is 200 V or 100 V. Figure 5(b) shows an improvement of the example shown in Figure 5(a). In this drawing, reference symbol Rec1 denotes a rectifier circuit, reference symbols r2 to r5 denote a resistor, reference symbol C2 denotes a capacitor, reference 10 symbol ZD1 denotes a voltage-regulator diode, reference symbol Compl denotes a comparator, and reference symbol Ampl denotes an amplifier. In this drawing, the input voltage is converted into a direct-current voltage by the rectifier circuit Recl, and the direct-current 15 voltage is used as a power supply for the comparator Compl, the amplifier Ampl and the relay CR1 and is also supplied to the voltage-regulator diode ZD1 to be converted into a reference voltage V2. The output of the rectifier circuit Recl is divided by the resistors 20 r4 and r5, and the resulting voltage V1 is supplied to one of the input terminals of the comparator Compl. The comparator Compl and the amplifier Ampl are configured so that the relay CR1 is excited when the input voltages V1 and V2 are related to each other 25 according to V1 > V2 and is not excited when the input voltages V1 and V2 are related to each other according to V1 < V2.

In the case where AC 200 V is supplied as the input power supply, the input voltage V1 to the comparator Compl is higher than the other input voltage V2, which is the voltage of the voltage-regulator diode, so that the relay CR1 is immediately excited, the contact CR1a is closed, the contact CR1b is opened, and the AC 200 V is applied to the higher-voltage tap of the transformer 5. On the other hand, in the case where AC 100 V is supplied as the input power supply, the voltage of the voltage-regulator diode rises after 10 a slight delay because the capacitor C2 is connected to one terminal of the voltage-regulator diode, although the input voltage V1 to the comparator Comp1 immediately rises. Therefore, the input voltages to the comparator Compl are related to each other according to V1 > V2 for a short time immediately after power on, and then, the relationship changes to V1 < V2. Therefore, the relay CR1 is temporarily excited and then turned into an unexcited state. Thus, in an initial phase after power on, the relay contact CR1a is 20 closed, so that the AC 100 V is supplied to the highervoltage input tap, and then, the AC 100 V is supplied to the lower-voltage input tap. This is intended to prevent a high voltage from being accidentally applied to the lower-voltage input tap when power-on is not 25 reliable due to chattering of the power supply switch or the like.

<Problems to be Solved by the Device>

5

10

15

20

25

As described above, the conventional apparatus determines the supplied voltage based on the level thereof and drives a relay or the like to switch the internal circuit to be suitable for the supplied voltage. Therefore, the apparatus cannot adequately follow the quick rise of the supplied voltage if the response speed of the determining circuit is low. In the case of the simple configuration shown in Figure 5(a), when 200 V is supplied, the 200 V is applied to the lower-voltage input tap for 100 V for a moment. Such abnormal voltage supply poses a risk of burnout or abnormal output. According to a conventional device to solve the problem, a comparator, a delay element and the like are added to the apparatus to ensure that the input voltage is first applied to the safe input tap, that is, the higher-voltage input tap as shown in Figure 5(b). As a result, however, the circuit is complicated, the rate of failure occurrence increases, and the cost increases.

<Means for Solving the Problems>

Noting that the connecting terminals for AC 100 V and AC 200 V power supplies have distinctly different shapes, and there is no possibility that one of the connecting terminals is wrongly used instead of the other, according to the present device, a separate power supply input cable is prepared for each of the

two types of power supplies, a connection unit of the cables to an arc machining apparatus is formed by a connector, the number of terminals of the connector is larger than the number of poles of the power supply, and connections of the extra terminals vary with the power supply so that the internal circuit of the arc machining apparatus is switched to be suitable for the power supply voltage simply by connecting the input cable to a connector unit of the arc machining apparatus.

#### <Embodiment(s)>

10

Figure 1 includes connection diagrams showing an arc machining apparatus according to an embodiment of the present device. Figure 1(a) shows a case where single-phase 100 V power supply voltage is used, and Figure 1(b) shows a case where single-phase 200 V power supply voltage is used. In Figure 1, reference numeral 12 denotes an AC 100 V plug, which is a parallel plate plug. Reference numeral 13 denotes an AC 100 V cord, and reference numeral 14 denotes a female connector 20 having three terminals. Terminals 14a and 14b of the female connector 14 are each connected to a 100 V cord 13, and a terminal 14c is short-circuited to the terminal 14a, which is one of the terminals connected 25 to AC 100 V. The plug 12, the cords 13 and the connector 14 form an AC 100 V power supply input cord. Reference numeral 16 denotes an AC 200 V input terminal, which has a crimp contact for connection to a 200 V outlet, a knife switch, a breaker or the like.

Reference numeral 17 denotes a 200 V resistive cord, and reference numeral 18 denotes a connector with the same specifications as the connector 14 used for the 100 V power supply cable. Terminals 18a and 18b of the connector 18 are each connected to the cord 17, and a terminal 18c is unconnected. Figure 1(c) is a connection diagram showing a configuration of an arc machining apparatus to which the power supply input cables shown in Figure 1(a) and 1(b) are connected. In this drawing, reference numeral 15 denotes a connector of a power supply input unit, which is a male connector having the same number of terminals as the connectors 14 and 18 of the power supply input cable. A terminal 15a of the connector 15 corresponds to the connectors 14a and 18a of the input cable, a terminal 15b of the connector 15 corresponds to the connectors 14b and 18b of the input cable, and the power supply voltage is applied to the terminals 15a and 15b. A terminal 15c 20 corresponds to the terminals 14c and 18c of the cable and is an extra terminal provided for power supply voltage determination as in the case of the connector at the end of each cable. Reference symbol CR2 denotes a relay having two contacts CR2a and two contacts CR2b, and a coil is connected between the terminals 15c and 15b of the connector 15. Other reference numerals 2 to

11 denote the same components as those in the conventional apparatus shown in Figure 4 except that the input voltage determining circuit 3 is omitted, and the controlling circuit 9 has a controlling auxiliary transformer 91 having a center tap on the primary winding and switches the power supply thereof by switching between the contact CR2a an CR2b of the relay CR2.

When the AC 100 V cable shown in Figure 1(a) is

connected to the apparatus shown in Figure 1(c), since
the terminals 14a and 14c of the connector 14 at the
end of the cable are short-circuited, an AC voltage of
100 V is applied to the relay CR2 to excite the relay
CR2, so that the normally-closed contact CR2b is opened,
and the normally-open contact CR2a is closed. As a
result, the power supply voltage is applied to a lowervoltage tap of the primary winding of the transformer 5
and the transformer 91 of the controlling circuit.

On the other hand, when the AC 200 V cable shown in Figure 1(b) is connected to the apparatus, since the terminal 18c of the connector 18 at the end of the cable is unconnected, the relay CR2 one terminal of which is connected to the terminal 15c of the connector 15 that correspond to the terminal 18c is not excited, so that the normally-closed contact CR2b is kept closed, and the normally-open contact CR2a is kept open. Therefore, the power supply voltage is applied to a

20

higher-voltage tap of the transformer 5 and the auxiliary transformer 91.

Thus, regardless of whether the power supply input voltage is 100 V or 200 V, the transformer 5 and the auxiliary transformer 91 outputs an equal voltage, and the circuit subsequent to the transformers operates under exactly the same conditions.

The AC 100 V and 200 V input plugs definitely differs in shape as specified in JISC-8303, so that there is no possibility that one of the plugs is wrongly used instead of the other. Therefore, the operator can connect the apparatus to the power supply without paying attention.

10

15

20

25

Referring to Figure 1, the terminal 14c can be disconnected, and the terminal 18c and 18a can be short-circuited to invert the normally-closed contact and the normally-open contact of the relay CR2 so that the relay CR2 is excited when AC 200 V is applied. However, in that case, the normally-closed contact of the relay is connected to the lower-voltage tap until immediately before the power supply is connected. Therefore, if the operating speed of the relay is low, there is a risk that the high voltage is undesirably supplied to the lower-voltage tap for a moment.

Figure 2 includes connection diagrams showing another embodiment of the present device. Figure 2(a) shows an AC 100 V power supply input cable, Figure 2(b)

shows an AC 200 V cable, and Figure 2(c) shows a configuration of an arc machining apparatus to which a power supply voltage is supplied via the cables. As shown in these drawings, the connector of the cables to be connected to the apparatus has four terminals. As shown in Figure 2(a), the AC 100 V cable has a connector 19, terminals 19a and 19b of the connector 19 are each connected to a power supply cord 13, and the terminal 19a and a terminal 19c are short-circuited.

10 On the other hand, as shown in Figure 2(b), the AC 200 V cable has a connector 21, terminals 21a and 21b of the connector 21 are each connected to a power supply cord 17, and the terminal 21a and a terminal 21d are short-circuited.

15

20

25

As shown in Figure 2(c), the arc machining apparatus has a four-terminal connector 20, terminals 20a and 20b of the connector 20 are power supply input terminals that correspond to the terminals 19a, 21a and 19b, 21b of the connectors of the cables, respectively, a terminal 20c corresponds to the terminals 19c and 21c, and a terminal 20d corresponds to the terminals 19d and 21d. A coil of a relay CR3 is connected between the terminals 20b and 20c, and a coil of a relay CR4 is connected between the terminal 20b and the 20d. Thus, the relay CR3 is excited when the input voltage is AC 100 V, and the relay CR4 is excited when the input voltage is AC 200 V.

Unlike the embodiment shown in Figure 1, an output adjusting method for the arc machining apparatus involves smoothing the input voltage rectified by a rectifier DR1 or DR4 by capacitor C3 and C4. Depending on the connections by the relay contact between the 5 point of connection between the capacitors C3 and C4, the point of connection between the rectifier DR1 and a rectifier DR2 and the point of connection between a rectifier DR3 and the rectifier DR4, a voltage multiplying rectifier circuit is formed when AC 100 V 10 is input, or a full-wave rectifier circuit is formed when AC 200 V is input. As in the embodiment shown in Figure 1, the controlling circuit 9 adopts the method that involves switching the primary-side tap of the 15 auxiliary transformer by the relay contact. Reference numeral 6' denotes an output adjusting unit, which temporarily converts an input direct current into an alternating current by a transistor chopper and a PWMcontrolled inverter circuit that are appropriately 20 adjusted and then rectifies the alternating current to provide a direct-current output, for example. The remaining components have the same functions and are denoted by the same reference numerals as those according to the embodiment shown in Figure 1, and descriptions thereof will be omitted. 25

When the AC 100 V cable shown in Figure 2(a) is connected to the apparatus shown in Figure 2(c), the

relay CR3 is excited, and the relay CR4 is not excited. Thus, a contact CR3a is closed, and a contact CR3b is opened. (At this time, a contact CR4a is opened, and a contact CR4b is closed.) As a result, the AC 100 V input voltage is multiplied and rectified by the rectifiers DR1, DR2 and the capacitors C3, C4, and the rectified multiplied voltage is supplied to the output adjusting unit 6'.

On the other hand, when the AC 200 V cable shown 10 in Figure 2(b) is connected to the apparatus, the relay CR4 is excited, and the relay CR3 is not excited. Thus, the contact CR4a is closed, and the contact CR4b is opened. (At this time, the contact CR3a is opened, and the contact CR3b is closed.) As a result, the AC 200 V 15 input voltage is full-wave rectified by the rectifiers DR1, DR4 and smoothed by the capacitors C3, C4, and the smoothed rectified voltage is supplied to the output adjusting unit 6'. Therefore, a substantially equal direct-current voltage is supplied to the output 20 adjusting unit 6' when the input voltage is AC.100 V and when the input voltage is AC 200 V. As in the embodiment shown in Figure 1, at this time, the power supply voltage is supplied to an appropriate tap of the auxiliary transformer 91 of the controlling circuit 9 25 through the corresponding relay contact.

In the embodiment shown in Figure 2, different relays are excited when AC 100 V is input and when AC

200 V is input, and the contacts of the relays are connected in series with each other. Therefore, even if one of the relay fails due to contact failure, disconnection or the like, there is no risk that a high voltage is applied by mistake, and thus, the safety is improved.

10

15

Figure 3 includes connection diagrams showing another embodiment of the present device, in which the arc machining apparatus has no relay and relies only on connector terminal connections to handle different power supply voltages. Figure 3(a) shows an AC 100 V power supply input cable that has a female connector at one end thereof. The female connector has two terminals 22a and 22b for connection to a power supply line and a number of extra terminals 22c to 22g required for switching of the internal circuit of the arc machining apparatus. Of the extra terminals, the terminals 22c and 22d are short-circuited, and the terminals 22e and 22g are short-circuited. Figure 3(b) 20 shows an AC 200 V power supply input cable that has a female connector 24 at one end thereof as with the cable shown in Figure 3(a), and only terminals 24e and 24f are short-circuited. Figure 3(c) shows an arc machining apparatus to which the cables are connected. The arc machining apparatus has a male connector having 25 terminals corresponding to those of the connector of each cable in a power supply input unit. Terminals 23c

to 23g of the male connector are located at positions corresponding to the terminals 22a to 22g of the connector 22 at the end of the cable and the terminals 24a to 24g of the connector 24 at the end of the cable.

- 5 Terminals 23a and 23b are each connected to a power supply line and therefore connected to a power supply switch 2, the terminal 23c is connected to the point of connection between rectifiers DR3 and DR4, and the terminal 23d is connected to the point of connection
- 10 between capacitors C3 and C4. The terminal e is connected to one of the outputs of the power supply switch 2, the terminal 23f is connected to a primary-side higher-input-voltage tap of the auxiliary transformer 91 of the controlling circuit 9, and the
- of the primary winding of the auxiliary transformer 91.

  The other terminal of the primary winding of the auxiliary transformer 91 is connected to the other output of the power supply switch 2. The remaining
- components have the same functions and are denoted by the same reference numerals as those according to the embodiment shown in Figure 2, and descriptions thereof will be omitted.

When the AC 100 V cable shown in Figure 3(a) is connected to the apparatus shown in Figure 3(c), the terminals 23c and 23d of the connector 23 are short-circuited, and the terminals 23e and 23g are short-

circuited, so that the AC 100 V power supply voltage is multiplied and rectified by rectifiers DR1, DR2 and the capacitors C3, C4, and the rectified multiplied voltage is supplied to the output adjusting unit 6'. At the same time, the AC 100 V power supply voltage is supplied to the lower-voltage tap of the auxiliary transformer 91 of the controlling circuit 9 via the terminals 23e and 23g.

On the other hand, when the AC 200 V cable shown in Figure 3(b) is connected to the apparatus shown in 10 Figure 3(c), the terminals 23e and 23f of the connector 23 are short-circuited, so that the AC 200 V power supply voltage is full-wave rectified by the rectifiers DR1 to DR4 and then smoothed by the capacitors C3 and 15 C4, and the smoothed rectified voltage is supplied to the output adjusting unit 6', and at the same time, the AC 200 V is supplied to the higher-input-voltage tap of the auxiliary transformer 91 of the controlling circuit 9. Therefore, a substantially equal voltage is supplied to the output adjusting unit 6' and the 20 controlling circuit 9 when the input voltage is AC 100 V and when the input voltage is AC 200 V.

In the embodiments described above shown in Figures 1 to 3, a single-phase 100 V power supply and a single-phase 200 V power supply are used. However, as far as the input plugs have clearly distinguishable shapes, the two power supplies can be a three-phase 200

V power supply and a three-phase 400 V power supply.

Furthermore, the method of switching the internal circuit of the arc machining apparatus is not limited to those illustrated in the above examples and can be appropriately selected to meet the requirements. And, of course, the number of contacts and the connections of the relays, the number of extra terminals of the connectors other than those connected to the power supply lines, and the connections between the terminals can be determined according to the method selected.

<Advantages of the Device>

10

15

20

As described above, according to the present device, required switching of the internal circuit can be achieved simply by connecting a dedicated input cable for the power supply voltage to be used to the apparatus. Thus, in addition to the simple structure and low cost, the apparatus has an advantage that the apparatus is trouble-free, and thus, the operation is highly stable because the apparatus does not need a complicated voltage determining circuit incorporating semiconductor devices or the like.

#### 4. Brief Description of the Drawings

Figures 1 to 3 include connection diagrams showing
25 an embodiment of the present device, Figure 4 is a
connection diagram showing an exemplary conventional
apparatus, and Figure 5 includes connection diagrams

showing examples of a two-voltage determining circuit used in the conventional apparatus shown in Figure 4.

- 1, 1 ... input terminal, 2 ... power supply switch,
- 5 ... transformer, 6, 6' ... output adjusting unit,
- 5 9 ... controlling circuit, 12, 16 ... input plug,
  - 13, 17 ... cord,
  - 14, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24 ... connector at the end of cable,
- 15, 20, 23 ... connector at the side of arc machining apparatus,
  - 91 ... auxiliary transformer, CR2, CR3, CR4 ... relay